

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR FOX VALLEY WISCONSIN COUNTIES

February 2003



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

January Unadjusted Unemployment Rates Increase

Between December and January, the seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate continued to increase in the Fox Valley WDA. This is not unusual for the area, as typically January and February generally have the highest rates of the year. Improvement in employment normally begins in early spring and is contingent on the weather. In January the rate rose 1.0 of a percentage point from December to 5.9 percent. All seven counties in the WDA had an increase in their rates over the month.

Only two counties in the region had higher rates than last year, and these were Winnebago, up 0.1 of a percentage point and Outagamie, also up 0.1 of a percentage point over last year. It should be noted that 2002 data has been benchmarked, while 2003 data is not, creating a break in the series, until the end of the year when data for 2003 will be benchmarked. This is the first year that data from the 2000 census has been used as a benchmark. Data back to the year 2000 has been benchmarked with the updated census data and will be posted on the DWD website as it is completed but is not totally compatible with previous year's data.

The number of workers in the labor force grew at a faster pace than those that found employment over the month. The labor force increased by 9,900 compared to 5,600 that found employment, this increased the number of unemployed by 4,300. The labor force should continue to increase during through June along with the number of employed. Normally employment growth begins to outpace labor force growth in March or April, depending on the weather in the region, as well as the health of the national economy.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment declined 6,400 in the region. The majority of the decrease occurred in the Appleton/Oshkosh/Neenah MSA. The decline was very close to the proportion of jobs between the non MSA counties and Appleton/Oshkosh MSA. The decline of jobs in the service sector follow closely seasonal patterns for the areas.

2003 Industry Data, Now NAICS

Beginning with the release of January 2003 data, the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) will replace the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system as the method used to classify industry data in our economy.

NAICS uses a production-based approach,

grouping establishments into industries based on the activity in which they are primarily engaged, and uses a six-digit hierarchical coding system to classify all economic activity into 20 industry sectors, representing over 1,170 industries. The SIC structure used a four-digit coding system to classify establishments into ten divisions which comprised 1,004 industries. The new data will not be comparable to previously released data using the Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC). The new system is based on product or service to determine classification, rather than ownership as the SIC system did. Data will be converted on an annual basis to NAICS and be posted to the DWD LMI bulleting board in the near future.

Labor Force Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted)				
		Appleton- Oshkosh-Neenah MSA	Wisconsin	United States (000s)
January-2003				
	Civilian Labor Force	241,700	3,098,900	145,838
	Employment	230,000	2,932,100	137,536
	Unemployment	11,700	166,800	8,302
	Unemployment rate	4.8%	5.4%	5.7%
December-2002 Change				
	Civilian Labor Force	5,700	71,000	688
	Employment	6,500	77,600	1,097
	Unemployment	(800)	(6,600)	(409)
	Unemployment rate	-0.5%	-0.3%	-0.3%
January-2002 Change				
	Civilian Labor Force	7,000	63,000	2,012
	Employment	6,600	60,700	1,745
	Unemployment	400	2,300	267
	Unemployment rate	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%

Note: All estimates are round and preliminary, based on place of residence.

(Continued on page 2)

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

The seasonally adjusted rate for the Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah MSA decreased 0.5 of a percentage point to 4.8 percent in January. This was unchanged from one year ago.

The nation's unemployment rate was down 0.3 of a percentage

point from December at 5.7 percent. Wisconsin's rate remained below the nation as it also declined 0.3 of a percentage point to 5.4 percent. The Green Bay MSA was 5.0 percent, down 0.6 of a percentage point.

For additional labor market statistics contact our website at <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>.

January 2003	App/Osh/Neenah	Fond du Lac	Green Lake	Waupaca	Waushara	Region	Non MSA's	Wisconsin
Civilian Labor Force*	239,800	58,400	11,000	27,700	12,200	349,100	109,300	3,065,200
Employed	226,500	55,100	10,000	25,700	11,200	328,500	102,000	2,873,500
Unemployed	13,300	3,300	1,000	2,000	1,000	20,500	7,300	191,700
Unemployment rate(%)	5.5%	5.7%	8.7%	7.2%	8.1%	5.9%	6.7%	6.3%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	4.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.4%
Total Nonfarm	204,000	48,200	7,400	21,000	5,900	286,500	82,500	2,716,700
Total Private	180,300	42,400	6,200	17,100	4,400	250,300	70,100	2,314,800
Goods Producing	63,700	13,800	1,900	5,800	900	86,100	22,400	631,500
Service Producing	140,300	34,500	5,500	15,200	5,000	200,400	60,100	2,085,200
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	12,300	2,700	500	800	300	16,500	4,200	110,900
Manufacturing	51,500	11,100	1,400	5,000	700	69,700	18,200	520,600
Trade	29,600	7,100	900	2,900	900	41,500	11,900	422,600
Transportation & Utilities	6,700	1,500	240	500	200	9,200	2,500	308,100
Financial Activities	10,800	1,900	360	800	200	13,900	3,200	153,000
Education and Health Services	21,200	6,500	1,100	2,700	800	32,400	11,100	357,000
Leisure & Hospitality	15,800	4,600	800	2,300	800	24,400	8,600	224,800
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svc	32,400	6,900	800	2,200	500	42,800	10,400	932,200
Total Government	23,700	5,900	1,200	3,900	1,500	36,200	12,500	401,900
Federal	1,000	700	60	100	100	2,000	900	29,200
4,670	4,700	4,340	20	800	400	6,600	1,900	92,100
Local	18,000	5,000	1,100	2,900	1,100	28,100	10,100	280,700
Change from one month ago	December 2002							
Civilian Labor Force*	6,500	1,800	400	800	400	9,900	3,400	60,500
Employed	3,900	1,000	100	300	100	5,600	1,500	27,600
Unemployed	2,600	700	300	500	200	4,200	1,700	32,900
Unemployment rate(%)	0	1.1%	1.9%	1.6%	1.5%	1.1%	1.4%	1.0%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	-0.5%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-0.3%
Total Nonfarm	-4,700	-800	-300	-500	-100	-6,400	-1,700	-70,000
Total Private	-4,100	-600	-250	-300	-100	-5,400	-1,300	-46,200
Goods Producing	-1,600	-200	-20	-100	-100	-2,000	-400	-12,400
Service Producing	-3,000	-600	-280	-400	-100	-4,400	-1,300	-57,600
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-1,200	-100	-30	-100	0	-1,500	-400	-11,100
Manufacturing	-500	0	10	0	0	-500	-100	-1,220
Trade	-1,600	-100	-30	-90	-100	-1,800	-300	-15,720
Transportation & Utilities	-200	-100	-20	0	0	-400	-100	-15,240
Financial Activities	-200	100	-10	10	0	-100	100	-440
Education and Health Services	0	-100	0	50	0	0	0	-3,940
Leisure & Hospitality	-300	0	-70	0	100	-300	0	-6,510
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other	-300	-200	-110	-100	-100	-800	-500	-9,470
Total Government	-500	-200	-50	-230	0	-1,000	-500	-23,740
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-580
State	-400	0	0	-20	0	-400	0	-10,730
Local	-200	-200	-50	-210	0	-600	-400	-12,430
Change from one year ago	January 2002							
Civilian Labor Force*	6,900	2,400	400	1,000	600	11,300	4,400	61,200
Employed	6,500	2,600	400	1,000	500	11,000	4,500	58,600
Unemployed	400	-200	0	0	100	200	-100	2,600
Unemployment rate(%)	0.0%	-0.6%	-0.6%	-0.1%	-0.1%	-0.1%	-0.4%	0.0%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0%
Total Nonfarm	2,200	1,600	0	400	200	4,500	2,300	-2,600
Total Private	2,100	1,600	100	400	200	4,300	2,200	4,200
Goods Producing	-700	300	-100	0	0	-500	200	-11,900
Service Producing	2,900	1,400	100	400	100	5,000	2,100	9,300
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	800	200	0	0	0	1,000	200	-1,000
Manufacturing	-1,500	100	-100	0	0	-1,500	0	-10,900
Trade	-1,000	0	0	-100	100	-1,100	0	-7,700
Transportation & Utilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-9,000
Financial Activities	200	100	100	100	0	400	300	1,600
Education and Health Services	500	200	0	200	0	900	400	6,700
Leisure & Hospitality	1,100	400	200	500	0	2,300	1,100	3,800
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other	2,000	600	-200	-200	0	2,300	300	19,000
Total Government	100	100	0	0	0	100	0	-6,800
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	-100	0	-600
State	-100	0	0	0	0	0	0	-600
Local	200	100	0	0	0	200	0	-5,600

* Includes participants residing in area. ** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. N/A = data is benchmarked to 3/2002

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: WWW.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI

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